IN THE CLAIMS:

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently amended) The method of claim [[1]] 40, wherein the water-soluble substituent is ~~-O-(C=O)-CH_2-N-$(CH_3)_2$-Cl~~ -O(C=O)CH_2NH$(CH_3)_2$.Cl.

3. (Currently amended) The method of claim [[1]] 40, wherein the host is infected with Herpes simplex virus.

4. (Currently amended) The method of claim [[1]] 40, wherein the water-soluble substituent is ~~-O-(C=O)-CH_2-NH_2~~ -O(C=O)CH_2NH_2.

5. (Currently amended) The method of claim [[1]] 40, wherein the ~~substantially purified~~ compound ~~inhibited~~ inhibits viral transcription.

6. (Currently amended) The method of claim [[1]] 40, wherein the ~~substantially purified~~ compound ~~inhibited~~ inhibits transactivation of viral gene.

7. (Currently amended) The method of claim [[1]] 40, wherein the compound is 1-(3,4-dihydroxyphenyl)-4-(3-hydroxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2,3-dimethylbutane (4-O-methyl-NDGA).

8. (Currently amended) The method of claim [[1]] 40, wherein the compound is 1-(3,4-dihydroxyphenyl)-4-(3-methoxy-4-acetoxyphenyl)-2,3-dimethylbutane (3-O-methyl-4-O-acetyl-NDGA).

9. (Currently amended) The method of claim [[1]] 40, wherein the compound is 1-(3-methoxy-4-hydroxyphenyl)-4-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-2,3-dimethylbutane (3,3',4-tri-O-methyl-NDGA).

10. (Currently amended) The method of claim [[1]] 40, wherein the compound is 1-(3-hydroxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-4-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-2,3-dimethylbutane (3,4,4'-tri-O-methyl-NDGA).

11. (Currently amended) The method of claim [[1]] 40, wherein the compound is 1-(3-methoxy-4-hydroxyphenyl)-4-(3-acetoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2,3-dimethylbutane (3',4-di-O-methyl-3-O-acetyl-NDGA).

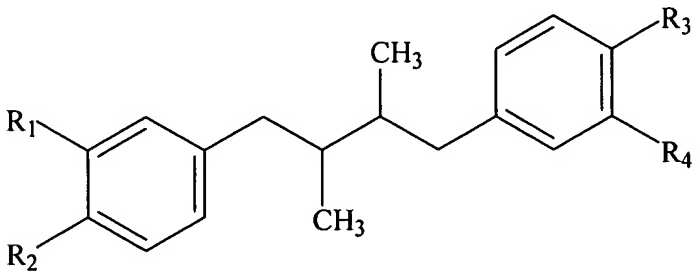
12. (Currently amended) The method of claim [[1]] 40, wherein the compound is 1-(3-methoxy-4-hydroxyphenyl)-4-(3-methoxy-4-acetoxyphenyl)-2,3-dimethylbutane (3,3'-di-O-methyl-4-O-acetyl-NDGA).

13. (Currently amended) The method of claim [[1]] 40, wherein the compound is 1-(3-hydroxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-4-(3-acetoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2,3-dimethylbutane (4,4'-di-O-methyl-3-O-acetyl-NDGA).

14. (Currently amended) The method of claim [[1]] 40, wherein the compound is 1-(3-hydroxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-4-(3-methoxy-4-acetoxyphenyl)-2,3-dimethylbutane (3,4'-di-O-methyl-4-O-acetyl-NDGA).

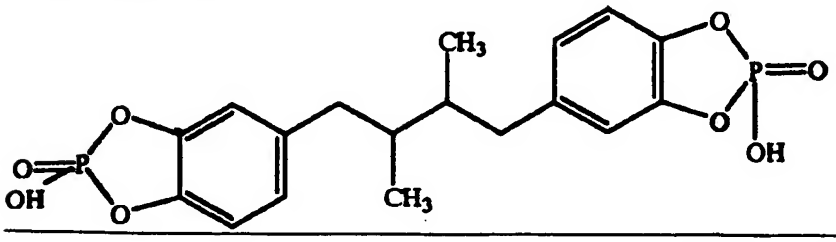
15. (Currently amended) A method of inhibiting replication of an acyclovir-resistant virus in a cell comprising the steps of:

(a) providing a substantially purified compound having a formula:

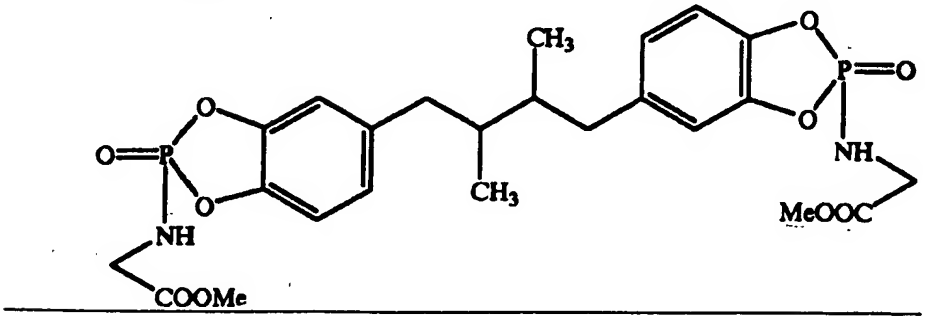


wherein R_1, R_2, R_3 and R_4 are each selected from the group consisting of HO-, CH_3O- and $CH_3(C=O)O$-, ~~or~~ and a water soluble substituent, wherein the water soluble

substituent is selected from the group consisting of: $-O(C=O)CH_2NH(CH_3)_2.Cl$, $-O(C=O)CH_2NH_3$,



and

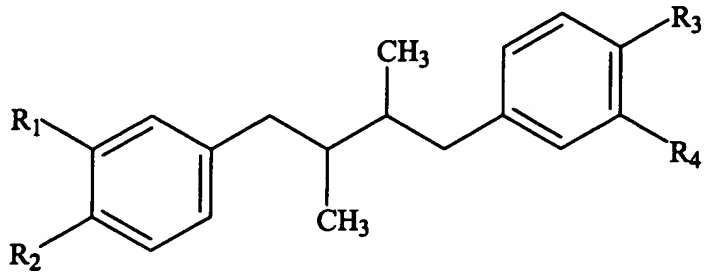


; and

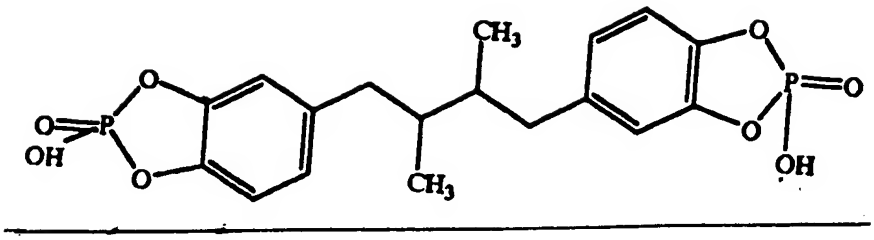
(b) contacting the cell with the ~~substantially purified~~ compound.

16. (Currently amended) A method of treatment of acyclovir-resistant viral infection in a subject comprising the steps of:

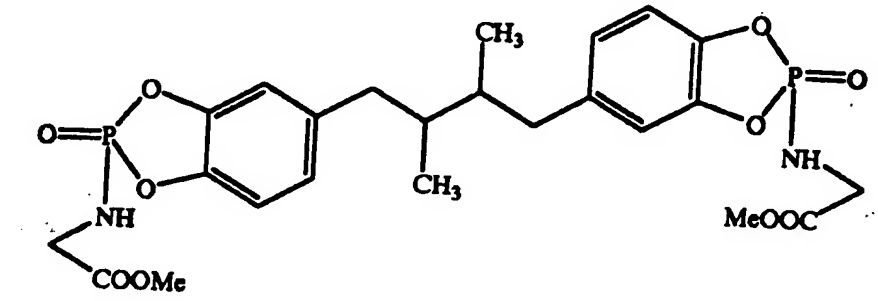
(a) providing a substantially purified compound having [[a]] the formula:



wherein R_1, R_2, R_3 and R_4 are each selected from the group consisting of HO-, CH_3O- and $CH_3(C=O)O$-, ~~or~~ and a water soluble substituent, wherein the water soluble substituent is selected from the group consisting of: $-O(C=O)CH_2NH(CH_3)_2.Cl$, $-O(C=O)CH_2NH_3$,



and



;

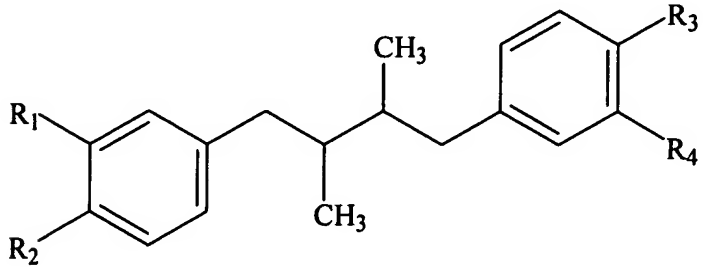
and

(b) administering the substantially purified compound to the subject.

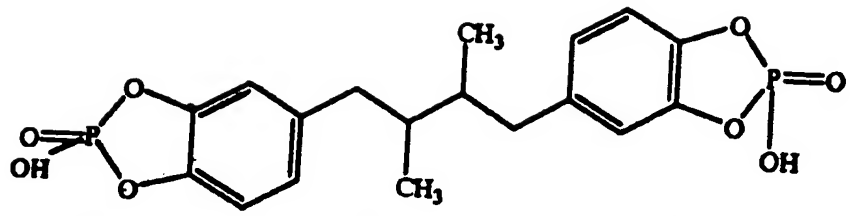
17. (Currently amended) A method of treatment of a subject infected with a virus, wherein the virus is ~~susceptible to development of resistance~~ resistant to acyclovir comprising the steps of:

(a) providing a composition comprising a substantially purified compound; and

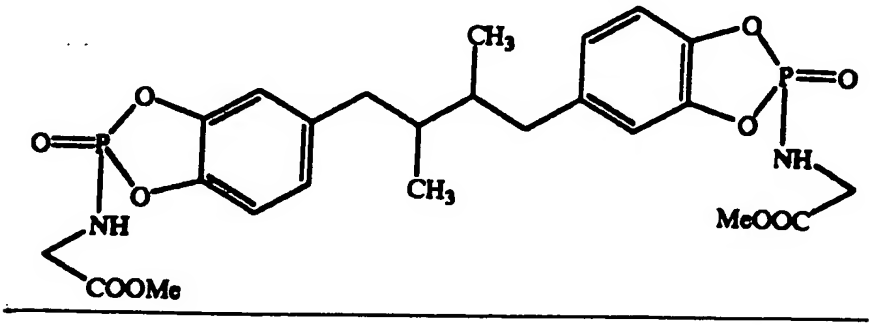
(b) administering a therapeutically effective amount of the compound to the subject, wherein the compound ~~is a derivative of NDGA~~ has the formula:



wherein R_1, R_2, R_3 and R_4 are each selected from the group consisting of HO-, CH_3O- and $CH_3(C=O)O$-, and a water soluble substituent, wherein the water soluble substituent is selected from the group consisting of: $-O(C=O)CH_2NH(CH_3)_2.Cl$, $-O(C=O)CH_2NH_3$,



and



18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~18~~ 17, wherein the water-soluble substituent is ~~-O-(C=O)-CH$_2$-NH$_2$~~ -O(C=O)CH$_2$NH$_2$.

20. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~18~~ 17, wherein the water-soluble substituent is ~~-O-(C=O)-CH$_2$-N-(CH$_3$)$_2$·Cl~~ -O(C=O)CH$_2$NH(CH$_3$)$_2$.Cl.

21 (Currently amended) The method of claim 17, wherein the ~~substantially purified~~ compound ~~inhibited~~ inhibits viral transcription.

22. (Currently amended) The method of claim 17, wherein the ~~substantially purified~~ compound ~~inhibited~~ inhibits transactivation of the viral gene.

23. (Previously presented) The method of claim 18, wherein the compound is 1-(3,4-dihydroxyphenyl)-4-(3-hydroxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2,3-dimethylbutane (4-O-methyl-NDGA).

24. (Previously presented)The method of claim 18, wherein the compound is 1-(3,4-dihydroxyphenyl)-4-(3-methoxy-4-acetoxyphenyl)-2,3-dimethylbutane (3-O-methyl-4-O-acetyl-NDGA).

25. (Previously presented) The method of claim 18, wherein the compound is 1-(3-methoxy-4-hydroxyphenyl)-4-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-2,3-dimethylbutane (3,3',4-tri-O-methyl-NDGA).

26. (Previously presented) The method of claim 18, wherein the compound is 1-(3-hydroxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-4-(3,4-dimethoxyphenyl)-2,3-dimethylbutane (3,4,4'-tri-O-methyl-NDGA).

27. (Previously presented) The method of claim 18, wherein the compound is 1-(3-methoxy-4-hydroxyphenyl)-4-(3-acetoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2,3-dimethylbutane (3',4-di-O-methyl-3-O-acetyl-NDGA).

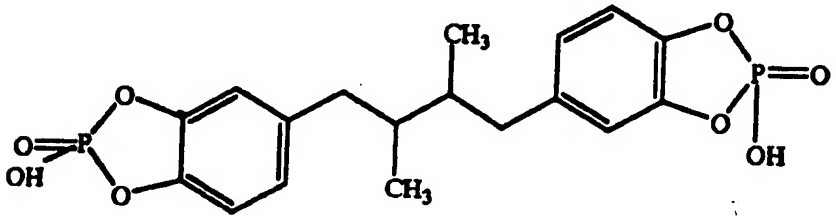
28. (Previously presented) The method of claim 18, wherein the compound is 1-(3-methoxy-4-hydroxyphenyl)-4-(3-methoxy-4-acetoxyphenyl)-2,3-dimethylbutane (3,3'-di-O-methyl-4-O-acetyl-NDGA).

29. (Previously presented) The method of claim 18, wherein the compound is 1-(3-hydroxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-4-(3-acetoxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-2,3-dimethylbutane (4,4'-di-O-methyl-3-O-acetyl-NDGA).

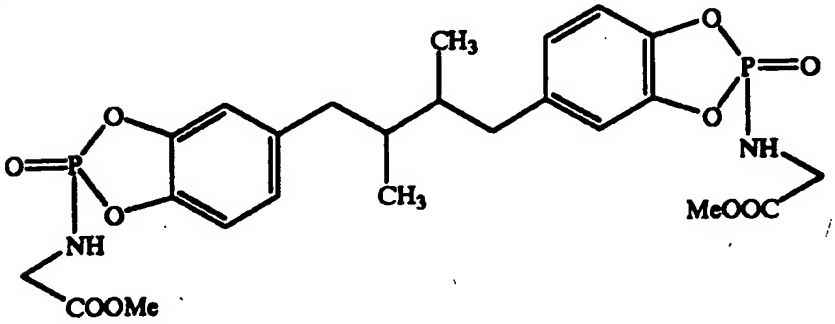
30. (Previously presented) The method of claim 18, wherein the compound is 1-(3-hydroxy-4-methoxyphenyl)-4-(3-methoxy-4-acetoxyphenyl)-2,3-dimethylbutane (3,4'-di-O-methyl-4-O-acetyl-NDGA).

31-38. (Canceled)

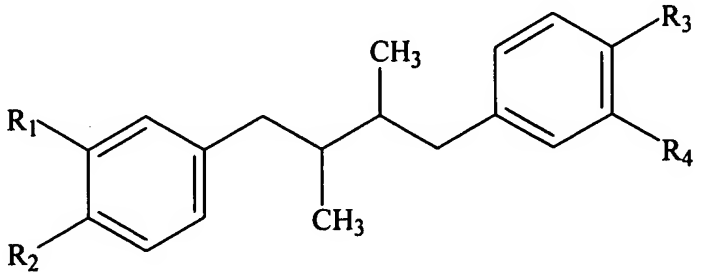
39. (Previously presented) A method of treatment of viral infection in a host comprising the steps of: (a) providing a composition comprising a compound; and (b) administering a viral inhibitory amount of the compound to the host, wherein the compound has the formula selected from the group consisting of:



and

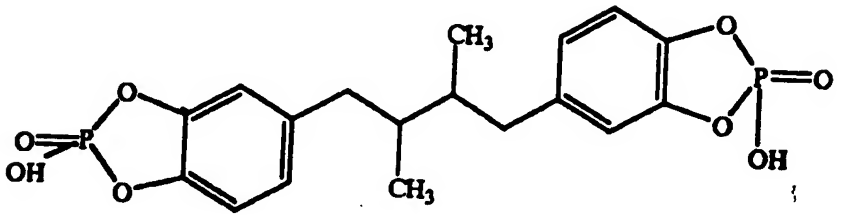


40. (New) A method for suppressing viral growth in a host infected with a virus comprising (a) providing a composition comprising a substantially purified compound; and (b) administering to the host an effective amount of the compound to suppress viral growth, wherein the compound is a derivative of nordihydroguaiaretic acid (NDGA) having the formula:

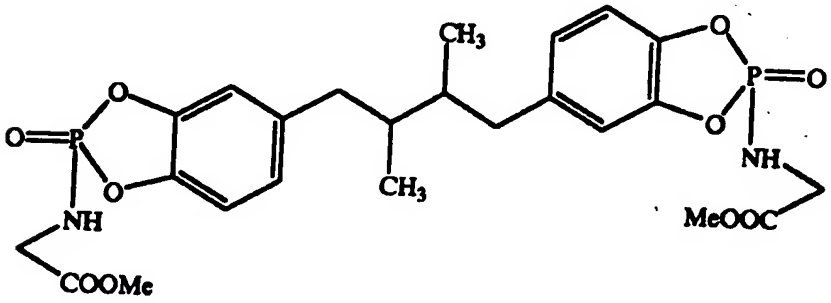


wherein R_1, R_2, R_3 and R_4 are each selected from the group consisting of HO-, CH_3O- and $CH_3(C=O)O$-, or a water soluble substituent, provided that R_1, R_2, R_3 and R_4 are not

each HO-, wherein the water soluble substituent is selected from the group consisting of: $-O(C=O)CH_2NH(CH_3)_2.Cl$, $-O(C=O)CH_2NH_3$,



and



41. (New) The method of claim 40, wherein R_1, R_2, R_3 and R_4 are not each CH_3O- or $CH_3(C=O)O$- simultaneously.

42. (New) The method of claim 40, wherein the effective viral growth suppressing amount of the compound is less than 95 μM.

43. (New) The method of claim 40, wherein the effective viral growth suppressing amount of the compound is less than 62.7 μM.

44. (New) The method of claim 40, wherein the effective viral growth suppressing amount of the compound is less than 31.3 μM.

45. (New) The method of claim 40, wherein the effective viral growth suppressing amount of the compound is less than 25 μM.

46. (New) The method of claim 40, wherein the effective viral growth suppressing amount of the compound is less than 9.5 μM.